

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re Application of: **HIROTA, Hisatoshi**

Group Art Unit: **3744**

Serial No.: **10/604,847**

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: **August 21, 2003**

Confirmation No.: **1846**

For: **METHOD OF OPERATING A REFRIGERATION CYCLE**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 10, 2004

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One of the document is attached.

Documents AA, AB and AG through AJ were cited in a European Search Report for a corresponding European patent application. The search report is also enclosed.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date (or the entry of the national stage) of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this

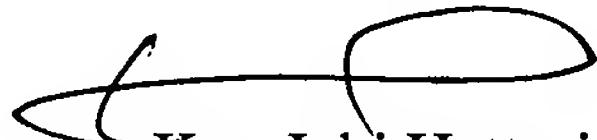
Serial No.: **10/604,847**

application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2866 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: PTO-1449, 5 references and European Search Report

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT <i>PTO-1449</i>	Atty. Docket No.: 030934	Serial No.: 10/604,847
	Applicants: HIROTA, Hisatoshi	
	Filing Date: August 21, 2003	Group Art Unit: 3744

FEB 10 2004

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
AA	4,697,431	Alsenz	10/06/1987	62	225	06/30/1986
AB	6,266,967	Honda	07/31/2001	62	193	03/28/2000
AC						
AD						
AE						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
AF	WO02/101237	12/19/2002	PCT	Yes (Abstract Only), Priority application from JP 2001-170435
AG	EP 1 113 235	07/04/2001	Europe	N/A
AH	09-99733	04/15/1997	Japan	Yes (Abstract Only)
AI	02-71061	03/09/1990	Japan	Yes (Abstract Only)
AJ	08-226716	09/03/1996	Japan	Yes (Abstract Only)

OTHER DOCUMENTS

AK	
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Examiner Date Considered